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SEP 21 2006

The Applicants thank the Examiner for here kind indication of allowable subject matter in the Final Office Action mailed September 7, 2006.

In response, applicants hereby cancel Claims 25-27 and 36 without prejudice. Claims 1-21, 28, 32-35, and 37 remain pending in the application. Since the Examiner has deemed all currently pending claims allowable, the applicants respectfully submit that this case is suitable for allowance.

Conclusion:

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claimed invention as presently presented is patentable over the art of record and that this case is now in condition for allowance.

Accordingly, the applicants request withdrawal of all pending rejections and request reconsideration of the pending application and prompt passage to issuance. The applicants further clarify that any lack of response to any of the issues raised by the Examiner is not an admission by the applicants as to the accuracy of the Examiner's assertions with respect to such issues. Accordingly, applicants specifically reserve the right to respond to such issues at a later time during the prosecution of the present application, should such a need arise.

As always, the Examiner is cordially invited to telephone the applicants' representative to discuss any matters pertaining to this case. Should the Examiner wish to contact the undersigned for any reason, the telephone numbers set out below can be used.

Respectfully submitted,

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